

## **Finance Council Minutes 10-19-06**

**Present:** Fr. Seigel, Steve Younker, Rob Galick, Leon Brummel, Jill Hansen, Margy Hill, Carol Cleveland

1. Review of July-Sept 2006 Financial Reports
  - Actual surplus of \$4.9k fell short of budget by \$2.7. Sunday Envelopes / Offertory fell short of budget by \$3.4k which was partially offset by Youth Ministry expenditures less than budget by \$1.3k.
  - July-Sept collections from Sunday envelopes totaled \$41.4k, 1% below the same quarter last year.
2. Update on the Handicap Accessible Committee:
  - Rob Galick reported that Shales McNutt has provided drawings on a proposed 1800 sq. ft. addition, which will house the elevator and provide gathering space for parishioners entering and leaving the building.
  - Rob reported that the Handicap Accessible Committee was generally pleased with the drawings and requested a full architectural sketch along with a bid for the job. Next Handicap Accessible Committee meeting will take place once Shales McNutt completed this work.
  - Finance Council considered proposal to be excessive and would like the Handicap Accessible Committee to reconsider its direction. The Finance Council stated the dollars spent on this addition could go a long way towards funding an ADA-compliant parish hall.
  - This led to a conversation about the pros and cons of a building a Parish Hall. There was extensive debate about possible uses for such a facility and whether demand would justify such an expenditure.
3. Pastoral Council Update:
  - Jill Hansen reported extensive brick repair needs to be done. Finance Council and Pastoral Council to hold a joint meeting on 10-21-06 to discuss alternatives.
  - Jill reported that the parish hall updating is progressing. Some electric work was done and there are 4 more closet doors and shelving to be installed. Then the painting needs to be finished. The next step will be the bathrooms.
  - Jill reported Pastoral Council is considering re-keying the church facilities.
  - Jill reported the Jeff Seyller family would like to use it's memorial collection to purchase something visible in memory of Jacob Seyller. Father suggested using the funds to replace the Risen Christ statue with a Crucifix behind the altar. The Risen Christ statue would be relocated to a prominent position elsewhere in the Church.
4. Jill Hansen presented an alternative of changing the format of the offertory envelopes before they go to print. The Council agreed to leave the format as-is for now. Too-frequent changes will make it difficult for parishioners to identify the Sunday envelopes they receive in the mail.
5. State of the Parish Address:
  - Will be a 15-minute presentation, to be delivered by Father Siegel in early 2007 at mass.
  - Presentation will include a financial update, an update on some of the ministries at St. Catherine, and a view on where we are and where we are going as a parish.

- This presentation will be discussed in detail at the next meeting.
6. Decision Making Process:
- Steve Younker encouraged the Council to take a step back and evaluate the effectiveness of the Council.
  - Council discussed its decision-making process, with an eye towards ensuring items don't remain unresolved agenda items for too long. In general the Council agreed the agenda and format of meetings are effective and functioning as intended.
  - At a prior Finance Council meeting it was suggested that we should identify future capital project needs and prioritize them. At that time the Council agreed this would be an important and necessary way to ensure funds are expended wisely and proactively. At this meeting the Council revisited the matter and reaffirmed its importance. However, it was agreed that the project would be more appropriately done by the Pastoral Council.
  - Jill Hansen agreed to discuss the prioritization of capital projects with the Pastoral Council.
7. Next Meeting will be 12-5-06 at 7:15.